

News Release  
April 6, 2008  
Kingston Jamaica

## **Scotiabankers Raise Funds to Purchase Emergency Equipment for UHWI**

From November 2007 - April 2008 hundreds of Scotiabank put hands and heart together to plan a series of fundraisers to purchase an Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump for the University Hospital of the West Indies. This is a vital piece of equipment used to offer emergency care to persons suffering from a stroke, heart attack or similar illness.

The largest fundraiser was held on Sunday April 6, 2008 at our sportsclub, Scotialink, (behind our Liguanea Branch) and featured several of Jamaica's top performers and is expected to attract an audience of over 500 patrons. Some of the acts to be featured include Fame Fm's Full House Comedy Crew, the 2k7 Comedy Buss Winner Dwight Samuels, Joan Andrea Hutchinson and Amina Blackwood Meeks.

The IABP is a mechanical device that is used to decrease myocardial oxygen demand while at the same time increasing cardiac output. It is used in situations when the heart's own cardiac output is insufficient to meet the oxygenation demands of the body. These situations could include cardiogenic shock, severe septic shock, post cardiac surgery etc.

The University Hospital of the West Indies' only Intra-Aortic Balloon Pump has malfunctioned. Persons suffering a heart attack or stroke are at real risk of succumbing to their illness due to the absence of a functioning machine.

The urgency of the situation has resulted in Scotiabank staff members committing to support the Hospital's efforts in procuring a new machine, which costs US\$42,000.00. The Bank will match the funds generated up to a maximum of \$J1.5M.

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